

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

FOURTH FLOOR
1755 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202 U.S.A.

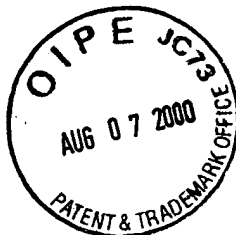
(703) 413-3000

(703) 413-2220 FACSIMILE

OBLONPAT@OBLON.COM

WWW.OBLON.COM

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AND RELATED FEDERAL AND ITC LITIGATION



DOCKET NO: 7791-0071-25X CONT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: U.S. Application

Serial No: 09/286,304

Filed: April 06, 1999

Group: 2761

Inventor: MICHAEL R. O'BRIEN ET AL.

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING
PURCHASE INCENTIVES BASED ON PRICE
DIFFERENTIALS

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF INFORMAL DELAY OF EXAMINATION

Our check in the amount of \$--0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Richard A. Neifeld
Registration No. 35,299
Attorney of Record



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NORMAN F. OBLON
MARVIN J. SPIVAK
C. IRVIN McCLELLAND
GREGORY J. MAIER
ARTHUR I. NEUSTADT
RICHARD D. KELLY
JAMES D. HAMILTON
ECKHARD H. KUESTERS
ROBERT T. POUS
DAVID J. KERA
CHARLES L. GHOLZ
WILLIAM E. BEAUMONT
JEAN-PAUL LAVALLEYE, PH.D.
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JORDAN S. WEINSTEIN
BRADLEY D. LYTLE
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MILTON STERMAN
SAMUEL H. BLECH
JOHN O. TRESANSKY
ALTON D. ROLLINS
JAMES R. BOLER
HARRIS A. PITLICK
RAYMOND F. CARDILLO, JR.
ROBERT W. HAHN, PH.D.
NEAL GOLDFARB
BRIAN B. DARVILLE

MASAYASU MORI*

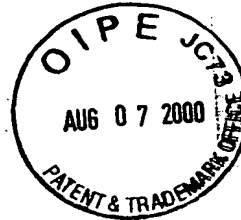
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JOSEPH A. SCAFETTA, JR.
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AMBER A. TRAIN
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JOHN W. KYLE, PH.D.
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DAVID A. BILDEADY
STAMATIOS MYLONAKIS, PH.D.
PHILIPPE C. SIGNORE, PH.D.
KEVIN A. NORDBERG
THOMAS A. BLINKA, PH.D.
DANIEL S. PEREIRA, PH.D.
RONALD A. RUDDER, PH.D.
JOHN W. CONROY, PH.D.
BAR MEMBERSHIP OFFICE
JAN VIGOR
JAPANESE PATENT ATTORNEY
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : GROUP: 2761
JOHN A. GIULIANI, ET AL. :
SERIAL NO: 09/286,304 : EXAMINER: POINVIL
FILED: April 6, 1999 :
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR :
GENERATING PURCHASE
INCENTIVES BASED ON PRICE
DIFFERENTIALS



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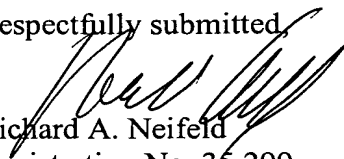
SIR:

The applicant requests a written indication why examination of this application have been informally delayed. Telephone status indicates that: application filed on April 06, 1999; Petition to Make Special granted June 25, 1999; PTO indicated application to be with Examiner Poinvil on May 1, 2000; as of August 3, 2000 case is still with Examiner Poinvil.



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Respectfully submitted,


Richard A. Neifeld
Registration No. 35,299
Attorney of Record

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